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VANCOUVER • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009 metronews.ca

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Artist's rendering.

Vancouver House gets library setup

2010 "Vancouver House" will be set up in the atrium of the Central Library during the 2010 Olympics to showcase our city.

The free, interactive display will include giant images projected across a screen of hanging drapes on the glazed façade of the library at Homer and Georgia streets. It'll be carbon neutral and also include a web portal. Users will be able to view and upload content that relates to the theme — the world connects here — and have a chance to see themselves online in Vancouver House.

METRO VANCOUVER

Protest Anti-seal hunt campaign



Karen Wolverton, a co-owner of Lush Cosmetics, protests Canada's seal hunt outside the company's Robson Street store at noon yesterday. The anti-seal hunt campaign extended to Lush stores across North America. Story, pg 3

Shot man not sought thief: Police

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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INVESTIGATION A homeless man shot and killed by a Vancouver police officer last week was not the suspect they had been looking for in connection with the break-in of a van nearby, police said yesterday.

Michael Vann Hubbard, 58, was shot on a downtown street after two female officers approached him and asked to search his bag, which looked like one that had just been stolen from a vehicle.

Police said the man pulled out a utility knife and when he refused to drop the weapon, he was shot.

"The bag in (Hubbard's) possession, although similar, was not the bag stolen from the vehicle in the reported theft," said Casey Vinet, a constable with the Abbotsford Police Department, which is investigating the shooting.

Investigators are reviewing surveillance video from two sources, and the footage will eventually be released to the media, Vinet said.

Police also expect to interview Adam Smolcic, who claims to have recorded the shooting on his cellphone before an officer took it from him and allegedly erased the video. On Monday, Smolcic took the phone to a forensics expert to see if the video can be retrieved.

Civilian panel

- David Eby, a Vancouver lawyer with the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, says he doesn't think police should investigate themselves and that a civilian panel should be investigating the shooting.

Earth Hour

Before you turn your lights off this Saturday at 8:30 p.m. to mark Earth Hour, Metro has some environmental stories to get you thinking "green."

Comment & Views

- Word on the street, pg 12
- Metro Drive
- Canadian auto parts giant
- Magna eyes the green market with electric vehicle concept, pg 20

Riding the Recession

Metro shares advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate through the recession.

Canada

- We look at parties where you not only get to see friends, but leave with a few pieces of clothing — at no cost, pg 7

Police's '09 crime fund half gone in 2 months

Force not in 'crisis' over gang violence costs, council told

JEFF HODSON
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are more gangsters, who are more heavily armed, than there have ever been.

The jump in investigative costs, about \$1 million through January and February, was driven largely by round-the-clock surveillance teams and wiretaps on gang members.

"This isn't a crisis," said Vancouver Deputy Chief Doug LePard. "It's pressure that we are dealing with in our budget right now. It's of significant concern, but we are managing."

LePard said the drain on human and budget resources was not sustainable,

Gang news

- LePard said police would be making another major gang announcement in the next two weeks.

but was hopeful for additional funding from the provincial government.

The department, he added, has recovered roughly half a million from B.C.'s Integrated Gang Task Force and Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit.

The number of "shots fired" complaints dropped almost in half, down to 16

between October 2008 and March 2009, the duration of Project Rebellion.

There were 29 shots over the same five-month period last year.

The project also resulted in 120 charges against 38 individuals, including Barzan Tili-Choli, the alleged leader of the United Nation gang, who has been charged with attempted murder for a targeted hit on two people at T-Barz in Surrey.

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Pride society ready to celebrate

The Vancouver Pride Society announced that it's getting ready to "Educate, Liberate and Celebrate" — the group's theme for the next three years. The 2009 Pride Parade has been set for Aug. 2. **METRO VANCOUVER**

3

Local



City households among richest: Report

With a net worth of \$592,851, Vancouver households are the wealthiest in the country, according to a survey released yesterday by Pitney Bowes Business Insight. Toronto is second, Calgary third and Quebec City is last among Canada's largest cities.

METRO VANCOUVER

nip/tuck

9 Tonight



Citytv



B.C., U.S. police make major bust

Drugs worth \$10 million netted along with cash, guns and helicopters, cops say

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Eight people have been arrested after police broke up what they call a sophisticated cross-border drug organization that used stolen helicopters to trade drugs and cash between

B.C. and the United States.

Police in Spokane, Wash., said yesterday the eight B.C. men, one of whom hanged himself in jail, and one U.S. man were trading B.C. pot and ecstasy for U.S. cocaine and cash. In total, police seized 340 kilograms of marijuana, 83 kilograms of co-

"This international investigation reveals just how seamless American and Canadian law enforcement work together." Staff Sgt. Dave Goddard, RCMP

caine and 240,000 ecstasy tablets, worth \$10 million to \$15 million, as well as cash, guns and two helicopters. The operation was uncovered in February

when police in Utah arrested a Canadian and an American man with 83 kilograms of cocaine.

"This international investigation reveals just how seamless American and Canadian law enforcement work together," said RCMP Staff Sgt. Dave Goddard.



Bags of narcotics seized by police after they busted a drug-smuggling ring.

Lush boss opposes hunt

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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PROTEST Covered head-to-toe in red paint and lying on a bloody Canadian flag, Karen Wolverton turned heads on Robson Street yesterday afternoon.

Wolverton, who is co-owner of Lush Cosmetics, was meant to represent one of 280,000 seals expected to be slaughtered in Canada's seal hunt this year.

The cosmetics company yesterday kicked off a campaign in partnership with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society to protest the hunt and raise money for the environmental organization's fight to protect baby harp seals.

"We're trying to educate the public on the slaughter

that happens every time this year," said Brandi Halls, spokesperson for Lush. "It's horrendous and cruel to animals, and we want it to stop."

We're an ethical retailer and we do business in Canada, so it seems natural to us to use our storefront as a way to get this message out," added Halls. "And we're ashamed about what's happening."

Lush employees across North America, including those at the company's Robson Street store, handed out postcards urging Prime Minister Stephen Harper to outlaw the hunt.

The company has also created a seal-shaped bubble bar called First Swim. Proceeds from the sale of the soap go to Sea Shepherd, which intervenes in the annual seal hunt.



Capt. Trevor Greene and his wife, Debbie, at the opening of Honour House in Vancouver last night.

War vets get housing with honour

SAM SMITH
for Metro Vancouver

SOLDIERS The families of injured soldiers and first responders sometimes need a "roof," according to a Vancouver soldier who suffered a serious head injury in Afghanistan.

Capt. Trevor Greene was in Vancouver last night for the opening of Honour House, a charity that will provide free, temporary accommodation for war vets

Heavy toll

• More than 1,000 wounded soldiers have returned to Canada since 2002.

who are injured in the line of duty and their families. It will also house the families of first responders, like police officers, firefighters and ambulance medics.

"I expect support for me and the troops," Greene said yesterday. "I think it's

very important what they're doing."

Greene was hit in the head with an axe on March 2006 after taking off his helmet out of respect while speaking to a tribal leader in Afghanistan. He said a facility such as Honour House would have helped him and his family.

Allan De Genova, president of the Honour House Society, said the housing is a response to the lack of resources in British Columbia.

News in brief

PHONE A Burnaby man says he gets as many as 12 calls a day from collection agencies for a \$7,000 bill from a cellphone he doesn't own, CBC News Online reports. Paul Babstock says he thinks someone used his identity to get the phone.

CANADA LINE It's up to a judge to decide if merchants affected by Canada Line construction are entitled to compensation for loss of revenue, Vancouver's mayor said yesterday. Gregor Robertson testified in the civil case a former Cambie Street shop owner has brought against TransLink.

PARKING Coined parking meters could be replaced by credit card pay stations on Granville Street if a new project is approved, news1130.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Bribery nets man \$1,000 fine

COURTS A Vancouver man who pleaded guilty to attempting to bribe his driver's licence examiner got a rough ride from a B.C. judge who ordered him to pay a \$1,000 fine.

Kim Hen Huynh failed his eighth road test in August 2007 at the ICBC Driver

Services Centre in Burnaby. After leaving the car and returning to the centre, Huynh placed four \$100 bills on the examiner's open folder and said, "Happy Birthday! Can you help me?" The examiner immediately reported the bribe. **METRO VANCOUVER**

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What's online today.

Video The only Mountie to check the vital signs of Robert Dziekanski had not been first aid certified in five years, at metronews.ca/canada

Blogs Hollywood Rants ponders the puzzling longevity of Nicolas Cage's career



Vancouver's last adult theatre has become a health risk because of unprotected sex, prostitution and drug use, according to an undercover police officer. The Fox Cinema is dirty and in breach of several bylaws and regulations, including smoking laws, the officer said. **METRO VANCOUVER**



Cpl. Benjamin (Monty) Robinson leaves the Braidwood inquiry after testifying yesterday.

Mountie's first-aid training expired

SAM SMITH
for Metro Edmonton

The Mountie who monitored Robert Dziekanski's condition after being Tasered was not qualified to administer first aid.

RCMP Cpl. Benjamin (Monty) Robinson said his

first-aid training certificate expired in 2002, but still felt confident in his skills.

"I checked his pulse and his breathing," Robinson said. "I monitored him until the firefighters arrived."

Walter Kosteckyj, the lawyer representing Dziekanski's mother, suggested Robinson did not check anything.

"Sir, you were not monitoring Mr. Dziekanski, were you," Kosteckyj said.

"I was monitoring," Robinson replied.

Kosteckyj also said the officers entered "like a SWAT team" and went on to cite several discrepancies between Robinson's original statements and video of the incident.

"I monitored him until firefighters arrived."

Cpl. (Monty) Robinson

In his original statement, Robinson said he had his knee on Dziekanski's back, holding him down. The

video does not show this.

"Does it appear to be that your knee is by the back of his head and neck area," Kosteckyj asked.

"Yes," Robinson said.

"Are you prepared to admit now that the four of you panicked that night," Kosteckyj said.

"No, we didn't," Robinson said.

Cut coming for Games party budget?

VANCOUVER
2010 Games

The world's economic downturn is playing party pooper to Vancouver's Olympic celebrations.

The city is expected to trim its "live site" budget by \$5 million because of a possible drop in sponsorship revenues.

The city's live sites, at David Lam Park in Yaletown and a "plazza" at the former bus depot at Beatty and Georgia streets, offer a free, family environment for people to celebrate during the Olympic Games.

Live Nation Canada, the largest producer of concerts in the world, will produce the sites in partnership with Five Currents, which will design, build and manage them.

Originally budgeted at \$23 million, the budget will be reduced to \$18 million if the proposed cut passes a vote by council.

If passed, the city will pay \$5 million and the federal government \$10 million. The remaining \$3 million will come from sponsorship as well as merchandise and food and beverage commissions.

News in brief

FLOODS Port Moody Secondary School will re-open this morning after closing yesterday because of flooding, news1130.com reports. The school was evacuated when the sprinkler system went off and water began pouring through the ceiling from the second floor.

THEFT A 27-year-old Kelowna man was arrested after stealing a pair of shoes and a van, then setting the van on fire outside a known drug house, CBC News Online reports. When officers arrived and searched the home, they found the man hiding in the basement wearing the stolen shoes. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



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Number of EI recipients in B.C. spikes 9 per cent

JOBS The number of British Columbians receiving government benefits increased nine per cent in January to 56,100, according to a study.

That the number of people on Employment Insurance (EI) continues to rise shows that labour market conditions in Canada have deteriorated significantly, according to Statistics Canada. Over the 12-month period leading to January 2009, the number of people in Vancouver receiving EI increased by 55 per cent to 26,020 people.

METRO VANCOUVER

By the numbers

- In Canada, the number of people on EI rose 4.4 per cent in January to 560,400.
- Between January 2008 and January 2009, the number of men receiving EI benefits increased 27.1 per cent, double that of women at 13.8 per cent.

City needs better security: Lawyer

SECURITY Vancouver needs to install tighter security around in-camera council meetings and create an "integrity commissioner" to investigate information leaks, a local lawyer says.

Richard Peck Q.C. was tasked in November with investigating a leak of confidential Olympic Village documents during last fall's civic election.

Peck said he chose to wait until a Criminal Code investigation by Vancouver police is complete before tracing the leak but did review city policies and procedures.

"The oversight and accountability provisions in the Vancouver Code (of Conduct) are lacking," Peck wrote in a report to council released yesterday.

He added that there are no penalties in the Vancouver Charter for breaking the code.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Spring forward to fall at Vancouver Fashion Week

KRISTIN THOMPSON
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We're only a week into spring, but fall and winter fashion is already making its way down runways for Vancouver Fashion Week.

The 15th annual event kicked off last night at Garfinkels bar in Whistler and featured women's ski-wear from Calgary-based

Frost Sportiva.

Cheryl Janisch said she had the 2010 Games on her mind when she designed the collection, which is made in Vancouver with 100 per cent Canadian goose down.

"With international travellers coming, it makes sense they'd see a made-in-Canada line," Janisch said. "The fabrics are all technical and reflect the colours

"With international travellers coming, it makes sense they'd see a made-in-Canada line." Frost Sportiva designer Cheryl Janisch

for fall — black, tan, pink and Aruba blue."

Janisch said ski gear for women tends to look like the ski gear for men, but her collection is form-fitting, which reduces bulk, and includes matching accessories and boot bags.

Vancouver Fashion Week returns to Vancouver tonight, with runway shows being held at the Storyum building in Gastown. The show wraps up on March 29.

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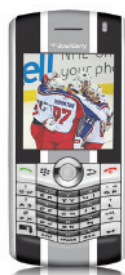
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Nearly 900 people have signed up for a first-time homebuyers' seminar organized by the Greater Vancouver Home Builders' Association last night in Surrey. The number of attendees was the most since the first seminar was offered in 1994. **METRO VANCOUVER**

Simple Plan are hockey fans

ROB MCMAHON
for Metro Vancouver

At least one Juno performer this year will be daydreaming about chasing pucks this weekend.

According to guitarist Jeff Stinco, Simple Plan's drummer Chuck Comeau is obsessed with hockey.

The Montreal pop-punks' South American tour will keep them from

playing in Friday's Juno Cup hockey game, although they will perform here on Sunday night during the awards ceremony. Last year they played with the Quebec Ramparts to raise money for charity, pulling in more than \$100,000 — along with a few scars. Their song Generation plays when the Montreal Canadiens score, and they recorded a version of the Hockey Night

in Canada theme last year. "I think if (Comeau) had the choice of being a drummer or a hockey player, he's more into hockey," said Stinco.

"But ... this year, hockey's been a bit too much. Chuck got spot checked on the ice one day and cut himself, and had to get four stitches, so we were like, 'OK, that's it, no more hockey,'"

The band is looking for-

ward to the Juno Awards ceremony, where it will be up for Album of the Year and Group of the Year.

Since their last Juno performance in 2005, they haven't radically altered their sound: A polished burst of energy rooted in '90s groups like Blink-182 and Green Day.

"We're all pretty positive people. We like to have good tunes and a happy sound," said Stinco.



Simple Plan drummer Chuck Comeau plays in Montreal.

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Liberal MLA fighting leukemia for third time, says Campbell

HEALTH Sindi Hawkins, B.C. legislature and across MLA for Kelowna-Mission, is fighting leukemia for the third time, Premier Gordon Campbell said yesterday.

The three-time Liberal MLA will start treatment "in the coming weeks."

"As she leaves to pursue the treatment she needs, I want Sindi to know that the thoughts, prayers and support of her friends in the

British Columbia are with her at this difficult time," Campbell said.

Hawkins, who was first diagnosed in 2004, has raised \$20 million for cancer research.

"Sindi has done incredible work for her province and community over the past 13 years as both a minister and MLA," Campbell added.



Hawkins

METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

POWERLINES Some of the 101 homeowners in Tsawwassen who accepted payouts from Victoria over a powerline project are having a tough time staying in the community, news1130.com reports. Home values in South Delta have gone up.

JAPAN Eight high school students from Nanaimo remain stranded in Japan after a FedEx plane crashed at Narita Airport, CBC News Online reports. The students were part of a group coming home from a spring break trip.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



The Art of Tea

Galloway battle headed to court

A Toronto lawyer said yesterday that she will file an application to review the decision to bar British MP George Galloway from entering Canada. Galloway was barred based on allegations he funded Hamas when he recently led an aid convoy into Gaza. Hamas is a banned terrorist group in Canada. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Canada



Snowbirds to fly until 2020?

Canadian pilots of the iconic Snowbird acrobatic air team could be put at unnecessary risk if the famed planes are pushed another 10 years beyond their lifespan, Defence Minister Peter MacKay has been warned. Documents obtained by the Toronto Star show senior defence officials have asked MacKay to approve a plan that would see the CT114 Tutor jets perform through to 2020. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Most moms happy with their maternity experience: Survey

HEALTH The majority of Canadian women are happy with their experiences during pregnancy, childbirth and the early months of motherhood, even though most are not breastfeeding long enough and too many are being

electronically monitored during labour, according to the first nationwide survey of new mothers.

"Most women have a positive experience in labour and birth. This is a credit to the women, their families and their health-care providers," Dr. Catherine McCourt, director of health surveillance and epidemiology with the Public Health Agency of Canada, said yesterday.

But the survey, which involved 45-minute interviews with 6,421 women, also found that a significant number of women are continuing with practices that are not recommended by medical experts. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Rachel Khan, 36, of Toronto holds her newborn son Zak at a breastfeeding clinic. Zak was born on March 3.



Friends and clothes Swishing parties all the rage in recession

Riding the Recession

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada

If you find yourself invited to a swishing party, don't expect to be going home with anybody's husband.

But you might just go home with someone's jeans.

The term swishing, coined in the U.K. in 2007 by Futerra, a sustainability communications agency, is used to describe clothes-swapping parties, which are all the rage as the economic downturn wears on.

Technically, to "swish" means to rustle, as in silk.

But in this context, it means to rustle clothes from friends, said Lucy

Shea, founder of Swishing.org and director at Futerra Sustainability Communications.

Michelle Balcers, a Toronto resident, said clothes-swapping fêtes are a great way to freshen up your wardrobe without opening your wallet.

The 39-year-old is far ahead of her time on the trend: She said she's been hosting clothes-swapping events since her university days. "We would have informal swaps in apartments and dorm rooms," she said.

These days Balcers is involved in hosting or attending at least two clothes-swaps per year, and said they usually involve generous amounts

of wine, some sort of potluck food arrangement and, of course, bags full of clothes.

Leigh-Ann Ingram has attended many of Balcers's swapping parties and said swappers can really luck out sometimes.

She brought an almost-new designer coat to one event that just didn't fit her properly, but fit one of the swappers like a glove. "She walked away feeling very pleased with herself," she said.

For details on how to organize your own swishing party, visit www.swishing.org.

Local clothes-swap party events are posted on websites such as Facebook.

"We would have informal swaps in apartments and dorm rooms."

Michelle Balcers

Evidence missing at new Svekla trial

EDMONTON Convicted killer Thomas Svekla's latest trial, for the alleged sexual assault of a five-year-old girl, may be halted as videotape evidence has mysteriously disappeared.

The 40-year-old made headlines last summer when he was convicted for the murder of 36-year-old sex trade worker Theresa Innes. Svekla pleaded not guilty to the unrelated sex assault charges when trial began last week.

Investigators lost a video tape, in which the now 18-year-old victim was interviewed by police in 1996.

VICTORIA HANDSIDES
/METRO CANADA

News in brief

HACKER An employee of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario has been dismissed after an alleged attempt to hack into an Ontario Liberal party website that has since sparked a police investigation.

CBC NEWS ONLINE



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metro

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Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Investors taking tougher stand on exec pay

A Canadian campaign to give shareholders a say on how much top executives take home is gaining momentum. **REUTERS**

Security of driver's licences questioned

Groups want moratorium on high-tech cards

Civil liberties groups concerned about privacy want a moratorium on enhanced driver's licences until the federal government debates their merit.

Several provinces began issuing the high-tech identity cards as a cheaper alternative to passports. As of June, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will require them to cross the border by land.

The licences have radio-frequency identification chips containing a unique number that allows border officials to access personal information such as birth

"Enhanced driver's licences ... will create significant privacy concerns."

Roch Tassé,
civil liberties activist

date and citizenship.

"Enhanced driver's licences will not make us safer from terrorism, they will not ease traffic flow at the border, but they will create significant privacy concerns related to flawed technology and dangerous information-sharing agreements with the U.S. and

other governments," Roch Tassé, national co-ordinator of the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group, told a news conference yesterday.

Driver's licences fall under provincial jurisdiction but since they were developed to address international security concerns they should be debated and studied by Parliament, Tassé said.

Manitoba, British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec are issuing the licences but Saskatchewan announced this week it will scrap its program.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Listeria testing delayed: Memo

FOOD Canada's food-safety watchdog has quietly delayed a crucial element of its new listeria-monitoring program, according to an internal memo obtained by the Toronto Star and the CBC.

Inspectors for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency started testing in food plants in February, looking for traces of the deadly bacteria in poultry and ready-to-eat meats.

But the testing has been put on hold until next month after some inconsis-

"We've identified some training gaps (among inspectors)."

Paul Mayers, CFIA

tencies were found in the initial tests, and because the inspectors have yet to receive training.

"We identified some training gaps," Paul Mayers, the CFIA's associate vice-president for programs, said yesterday in an interview, adding that meat-plant operators had

raised concerns about a lack of consistency in the way inspectors were conducting the tests.

Bob Kingston, head of the agriculture union that represents CFIA inspectors, said some inspectors will be trained shortly to conduct the tests according to proper protocols.

Despite questions about the validity of the test results, Mayers said they will still be assessed.

"If there are positives, they'll be acted on," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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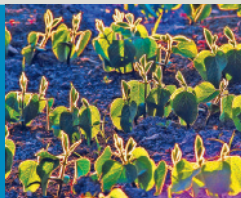
Woman cuffs herself to sleeping husband

An American woman handcuffed herself to her sleeping husband in an apparent attempt to resolve an argument, but police ended up breaking into their home and charging her with assault and other crimes, authorities said yesterday.

REUTERS

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World



Soy linked to reduced cancer: Study

Asian-American women who ate a lot of soy as children had a 58 per cent reduced risk of developing breast cancer, U.S. researchers said on Monday in a finding that suggests soy may have a protective effect. Historically, breast cancer rates among white women in the United States are four to seven times higher than in women in China or Japan, Regina Ziegler of the National Cancer Institute said in a statement.

REUTERS

News in brief

REFUGEES An estimated 383,000 asylum seekers lodged applications to stay in the West in 2008, a 12 per cent rise on 2007 as more Somalis and Afghans fled fighting in their homelands, the United Nations said yesterday.

ISRAEL Prime Minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu enlisted Ehud Barak's Labour party yesterday into a political partnership that could help Israel's next government avoid friction with Washington on Middle East peace. Barak's Labour party ratified the pact after a stormy debate.

DRUGS With Mexico gripped by rampant drug violence, the U.S. yesterday announced steps to crack down on smuggling of narcotics, guns and money by gangs that threaten security on both sides of the border.

REUTERS

Australia Monkey business



Elke, a five-day-old Francois Langur, makes her media debut at Taronga Zoo's Wildlife Hospital in Sydney yesterday. Keepers will raise the monkey after she was rejected by her mother.

DANIEL AMMON/REUTERS

Man denies shooting sex film

BLACKMAIL An Italian man denied yesterday accusations he filmed secret sex videos used in the attempted blackmail of the heiress to the BMW car empire.

Ernano Barretta said one million euros found in his country home in Italy were his "life savings" and not

part of the money that German heiress Susanne Klatten paid to former banker Helg Sgarbi after Sgarbi seduced her. Klatten gave Sgarbi 7 million euros, believing he needed the money to avoid jail for paralyzing a child in a traffic accident.

REUTERS

Obama takes strategy to primetime television

U.S. President Barack Obama said yesterday his administration was confronting the economic crisis on all fronts and seeing signs of progress as he sought to reassure recession-weary Americans about his recovery strategy.

"We will recover from this recession. But it will take time, it will take patience," he said in the opening statement of his second primetime White House news conference since he took office on Jan. 20.

Knocked off stride by public anger over hefty corporate bonuses and facing

skepticism about his massive budget plan, Obama moved to regain his political footing and refocus attention on his broader economic agenda.



Obama

He made his case to the American people the same day he pressed for co-ordinated action among the world's major economies, and just a day after unveiling a trillion-dollar plan to soak up toxic bank assets at the root of the global financial meltdown.

Obama took the podium after U.S. stocks slid while investors paused to reassess the government's latest ef-

Push for power

• Obama said that he believes there will be broad support among the public and Congress for his proposal to give the U.S. Treasury the authority to wind down large failing financial firms, such as American International Group.

fort to clean up bank balance sheets. Initial euphoria over the plan had driven stocks higher Monday.

Brushing aside any doubts, Obama said, "We've put in place a comprehensive strategy designed to attack this crisis on all fronts."

REUTERS

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U.S. expected to unveil Afghanistan strategy

President Barack Obama is expected to announce the results of his review of Afghanistan policy Friday, a U.S. official said yesterday.

The source declined to provide any details of the much-anticipated review, which has been looking

for new ways to halt the worsening insurgency in Afghanistan.

Obama has said the United States is not winning in Afghanistan and last month ordered the deployment of 17,000 extra U.S. troops to the country.

He declined to comment on the results of the review yesterday.

"I don't want to prejudge what is still a work in process," he told reporters.

Nevertheless, senior administration officials have provided the outlines of

possible policy adjustments.

They have spoken out in favor of increasing the size of the Afghan security forces, improving co-operation between NATO nations and the Afghan government and increasing civilian assistance to

build institutions and infrastructure.

In an interview with CBS's 60 Minutes program broadcast Sunday evening, Obama said the U.S. mission in Afghanistan should be "making sure that al-Qaida cannot attack the U.S. homeland and U.S. in-

terests and our allies."

"That's our No. 1 priority," he said.

"And in service of that priority there may be a whole host of things that we need to do. We may need to build up economic capacity in Afghanistan. We may need to improve our diplomatic efforts in Pakistan," Obama said.

"What we can't do is think that just a military approach in Afghanistan is going to be able to solve our problems. So what we're looking for is a comprehensive strategy," he said.

"And there's got to be an exit strategy," he added.

"There's got to be a sense that this is not perpetual drift."

The United States has some 38,000 troops in Afghanistan and other nations, mainly NATO allies, have deployed about another 30,000.

REUTERS

China arrests 12 over deadly blaze

BEIJING China has formally arrested 12 people for violating controls on dangerous goods following a deadly blaze caused by fireworks at a high-rise belonging to China Central Television, the Beijing News said today.

The 30-storey building, just north of the spectacular, gravity-defying CCTV tower designed by Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas, burned spectacularly on Feb 9, China's Lantern Festival, killing one firefighter.

An initial investigation found the fire was caused by fireworks banned in the city because they were so powerful.

The 12 arrested include the former head of CCTV's construction office and eight employees of the Sanxiang fireworks company in south Hunan province.

The charge has a maximum sentence of three years imprisonment, although in particularly serious cases the jail term can be extended to seven years.

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Comment

That's democracy, Jack

Tories implementing new rules that favour incumbents

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

The federal Tories — and to a lesser degree the Liberals — are having a little trouble with the idea of democracy.

I don't blame them. No one has ever come up with the perfect democracy. Our first-past-the-post system is kind of a blunt instrument. It doesn't matter if your candidate gets a pile of votes ... unless they come first, they're not elected.

There's a growing movement for proportional representation, in which a certain percentage of the vote yields a number of elected candidates, which works fine unless the Wing Nut Party gets 20 per cent of the vote, and you end up with 20 MPs with red noses and big shoes.

Nowhere is democracy more scary and raw than at the constituency level. Want your candidate to get nominated? All you have to do is go around and sign up members, and if you can get enough of them to the nomination meeting, and they vote for your candidate, voila, your candidate is representing the Tories, the Liberals, the NDP, the Greens, etc.

Grassroots democracy. It's a thing of beauty. Of course, beauty is in the eye of the beholder. And the process is so

open and free that upsets happen. Not only that, the system is open to abuse and manipulation. We've all heard stories of one-issue candidates busing in the faithful, packing meetings, and overwhelming the incumbent with a show of force. Too bad — that's democracy, Jack.

Well, the Tories are going to put a cork in democracy by implementing new rules that favour incumbents. If you are one of the 143 who managed to get elected last time, you'll be sitting pretty; you will be acclaimed as your riding's candidate unless two-thirds of the members want an open nomination.

Granted, the party will send the reforms to a vote, and anyone who was a Tory member as of March 10 will be eligible. But it's the principle of the thing ... accountability is

a cornerstone of democracy, and if MPs aren't accountable to members of their own riding associations, the people who recruited and nominated them in the first place, they will end up being more accountable to the Boss, the Right Honourable Stephen Joseph Harper, as if he doesn't already have enough power over his merry band.

The Tories aren't the only ones offering their MPs a measure of protection. If Michael Ignatieff's 77 Liberals want to be protected from nomination battles they will have to meet membership and donations standards that should be pretty easy to hit: 400 members and 40 "Victory Fund" donors who give \$10 a month. The NDP is the last bastion of free and open nomination battles among the Big Three: No protection — period — for its no doubt uneasy 37 MPs.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



Word on the street: Do you think the federal government's proposal to phase out incandescent light bulbs and promote CFL bulbs is actually a bright idea?

Isa Mills

age 25,
Vancouver

A: Overall, it's a wonderful initiative. Maybe it will make us understand that we all have to contribute and change our lifestyle for the sake of our planet.



Ryan Correia

age 20,
Vancouver

A: It's a great idea because at home we only use the compact fluorescent light bulb ... which saves us a lot of money.



Nancy Vongxay

age 27,
Vancouver

A: The proposal is great since Vancouver is already known to be an eco-friendly city — just take a look at our transit system.



Carman Fox

age 26, Calgary

A: It's green, but I don't think it should be a high priority right now.



Anna Labetski

age 18, Toronto

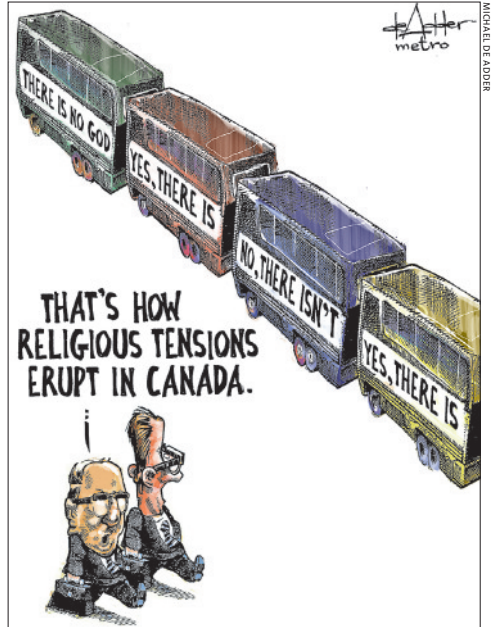
A: It's about time. I think it's a good idea, but it's really behind. It's trying to send a message, but Europe did this a long time ago.



Sam Gillmore

age 18, Ottawa

A: I think it's up to people on their own. It won't make that much of a difference if it's just here and there.



Worth mentioning

Beauty or brains? Poll says women conflicted

Smart or thin? Rich or ugly?

Women still have a complex and contradictory relationship with their own image according to a poll released yesterday that found 25 per cent of those questioned would rather win the America's Next Top Model TV show than the Nobel Peace Prize.

And although 75 per cent of women surveyed said they would be willing to shave their heads to save the life of a stranger, more than one-quarter of those taking part admitted they would make their best friend fat for life if it meant they could be thin.

As for that age-old dilemma of whether to marry for wealth or looks, half of the 18- to 34-year-olds questioned said they would marry an ugly man if he were a multi-millionaire.

The poll for U.S. television network Oxygen, which is targeted at young women, also found that 88 per cent of 18- to 34-year-old women would happily give up their cellphone, jewelry and makeup to keep a friendship.

"This survey proves an interesting dissection of today's woman and how she relates her personal image with what she values in her life," said Dr. Jenn Berman, psychotherapist and judge of the upcoming new Oxygen series Pretty Wicked.

"As shown in several results, women today are a complex combination of altruistic and materialistic, vain and insecure, loyal and self-serving. This survey highlights the dichotomy in all of us," Berman said.

More than 2,000 women aged 18 to 34 were interviewed for the poll. REUTERS



It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: vancouverletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Berlusconi asks Italy to work harder

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said yesterday Italy was well placed to emerge from the global economic downturn but he urged his countrymen to work harder. **REUTERS**

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Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Bankruptcies rise

Consumers struggling but businesses OK

In yet another sign that the recession is bearing down, the number of Canadian consumers filing for bankruptcy rose sharply in January.

At the same time, the number of businesses across the country filing for bankruptcy fell slightly when compared to January 2008, according to figures released yesterday by the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada.

There were 8,392 bank-

El claims

- The number of people receiving Employment Insurance benefits rose to 560,400 in January, up 4.4 per cent from December, according to Statistics Canada.

ruptcies in January, up 19 per cent when compared to January 2008.

Of those, 7,944 were filed by consumers, almost

22 per cent more than a year earlier.

Overall, businesses filed 448 bankruptcies, nearly 15 per cent fewer than a year ago. The decline seems to reflect that this recession was not caused by higher interest rates, and corporations and businesses were mostly in good shape just prior to it setting in, said Doug Porter, deputy chief economist at BMO Capital Markets.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Slovenia Renault moves production home



Workers leave the Revoz factory that produces cars for Renault in Novo Mesto, Slovenia, yesterday. Renault said it would build more older Clio II models at Flins near Paris to meet extra demand, and because production at Novo Mesto had already been boosted to three shifts and could not be raised further.

Oil firms target shareholder limit

TAKEOVER Suncor Energy Inc. and Petro-Canada will ask the Canadian government to repeal a law that protected Petro-Canada from any unwanted takeovers but left its stock depressed, according to documents filed with regulators.

Suncor agreed on Monday to buy Petro-Canada in an all-share deal, initially

valued at \$18.4 billion, to create Canada's largest oil company.

The companies say that once the takeover is complete, the deal is structured so that Suncor will be extended the same protection of shareholder limits that were set up in the 1991 Petro-Canada Public Participation Act.

However, according to

the merger agreement, Suncor doesn't want the shelter of the act, which limits individual investors to a 20 per cent stake.

The act is widely seen as a brake on any gains made by Petro-Canada stock, which has traded lower than that of its rivals because of the reduced chances of a takeover.

REUTERS

Business in brief

AIG Fifteen of 20 American International Group leading bonus recipients have agreed to give them back in full, said New York's attorney general, who is probing \$165 million US in executive pay at the troubled company bailed out by the U.S. government.

OIL Libya aims to purchase Canada's Verence Energy Inc. as soon as possible, blocking a bid by China National Petroleum Corp., the head of Libya's National Oil Company said yesterday. Verence holds promising oil assets in Libya, which sits on Africa's largest reserves.

MEDIA Cable and telecom group Shaw Communications Inc. said yesterday that it added more than 100,000 digital TV subscribers in the second quarter as its business showed strength despite a slumping economy.

REUTERS

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JORDAN 4% 	LEBANON 9%
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Egypt.....14.9¢	Oman.....17.9¢
Iran.....3.9¢	Saudi Arabia.....3.9¢
Iraq.....4.9¢	Syria.....18.9¢
Israel.....2.9¢	U.A.E.....19.9¢

Latin America

ECUADOR 12% 	CUBA 85%
--------------------	-----------------

Haiti.....16.9¢	Bolivia.....6.9¢
Honduras.....15.9¢	Chile.....2.9¢
Panama.....3.9¢	Colombia.....3.9¢
Uruguay.....7.9¢	Dominican Rep.....6.9¢
Venezuela.....2.9¢	Mexico.....2.9¢

South Asia

INDIA 6% 	PAKISTAN 5%
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Bangladesh.....3.9¢
Bhutan.....15.9¢
Maldives.....16.9¢
Nepal.....7.9¢
Sri Lanka.....11.9¢
Afghanistan.....24.9¢

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Brazil soccer star Robinho threatened Pele with legal action yesterday over the soccer legend's suggestion that he had a drug problem. The Manchester City forward is angry at Pele's comments last week to a Brazilian radio station that Robinho and Ronaldo had both had substance abuse issues. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Clijsters to ask for wild card?

Sources say former world No. 1 tennis player Kim Clijsters has asked the U.S. Open about receiving a wild card for this year's tournament as part of her comeback plans. The 25-year-old Belgian says she will announce her 2009 plans at a news conference tomorrow.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canucks end road slump

NHL RESULT

Canucks 5 Stars 2

SCOTT RINTOUL
for Metro Vancouver

THE SKINNY: Ryan Kesler and Henrik Sedin each scored two goals as the Canucks snapped a four-game losing streak on the road. Both players buried power play markers, as did Henrik's brother Daniel, as Vancouver used a hot power play to overcome a slow start. Roberto Luongo made 35 saves for his 28th win of the season.

THE REVENGE: After being denied a sure goal on a brilliant stick save by Luongo, former Canuck Brendan Morrison notched his 500th NHL point on the same shift he opened the



Marty Turco lays on the ice as Canucks Alexander Edler and Mats Sundin congratulate Ryan Kesler on his first period goal last night. The Canucks won 5-2.

scoring for the Stars.

THE DENTIST: The Sedins won't be tough to tell apart now; Daniel needs an appointment thanks to some tooth removal courtesy Mark Fistric's high-stick.

THE EDGE: Steve Ott broke "the code" by stepping out of

the penalty box to low-bridge Taylor Pyatt. Darcy Hordichuk returned the favour later in the period by stapling goalie Marty Turco to the side boards.

THE OSS: Vananen's debut was fairly routine. The blue liner recorded his first assist in Vancouver colours, but finished minus-one in 8:26 of

ice time.

THE RATING: This one had a bit of everything, including mistakes, but it made for great viewing. 4.5 stars out of 5.

THE NEXT GAME: The Canucks continue their six-game road trip with a stop in St. Louis tomorrow.

Bosh says he will take responsibility

NBA Amid unproven allegations he's denied a former girlfriend financial support for a months-old daughter the woman says he fathered, Chris Bosh came out in defence of his character and vowed to handle his parental duties.

The Toronto Raptors all-star forward, who turned 25 yesterday, refused comments on the specifics of a lawsuit filed by a former lover but said he would honour any commitments.

"All I can say is that I'm going to take care of my responsibilities like I've been doing in the past and in the future and keep respecting everyone," Bosh told a throng of reporters yesterday.

"I love my daughter, I love myself and I respect her mother and I'll leave it at that."

In court papers filed in her native Maryland, Allison Mathis has accused Bosh of abandoning her and her unborn child when she was seventh months pregnant and denying her financial support, even when she became ill late in the pregnancy. The suit, which has not been proven in court, asks for unspecified child support and sole custody of

Trinity Meyers Mathis, now just over four months old. "I hope everybody respects my wishes to keep it quiet," Bosh said.

The scandal is the by far the most serious hit to a

squeaky-clean image Bosh has built in six seasons with the Raptors. The team's leading scorer and rebounder — and a four-time

NBA all-star — has built a reputation as a solid citizen thanks to the work of his Chris Bosh Foundation with disadvantaged youth in Toronto.

He said he's unconcerned about any damage to his legacy.

"It's not a disappointment," he told a throng of reporters. "I know how things are so if I can live with myself, that's all I want. I know what I've done and you know, it's all good things. Contrary to what some people say I know that I have a positive outlook on everything, I respect everyone and things have always been good for me. People closest to me don't call it into question."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Morace's goals within reach for Canadian women

DUANE ROLLINS
for Metro Canada

SOCCER When Carolina Morace took over the head coaching position of the Canadian women's soccer team, she knew she saw a lot of promise. But, she also knew she was in for a lot of work.

"It's a challenge," she said. "That's why I took the job — for the challenge."

Morace was in Toronto

yesterday to promote her home coaching debut, which will take place May 25 against Japan at BMO Field. She said that it's her goal to make the women the "No. 1 team" for Canadians. The game should sell itself, she suggested.

"I started following soccer by watching TV and I enjoyed the movement of the game," she said.

"People love players like Cristiano Ronaldo or (Lionel) Messi. They are at-



Morace

tracted to them because they are technical players. They are creative. I think we can teach some of that movement, but we need people (in Canada) to love the game."

According to Morace, Canada started to play that kind of technical game at the recent Cyprus Cup, where it finished with the

silver medal, losing 3-1 to England in the final.

"The girls are already playing the new way," Morace said through an interpreter.

"There are no more long balls. The ball is at their feet."

In addition to the May 25 game, Morace said that the team is planning to play a two game series with the United States and a tournament in Mexico this summer.

SCOREBOARD

NHL
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
VANCOUVER 5 Dallas 2
Detroit 3 Edmonton 2
Toronto 3 Washington 2 (SO)
N.Y. Rangers 2 Minnesota 1
Montreal 6 Atlanta 3
Tampa Bay 2 Columbus 1 (OT)

Anaheim at Nashville
Los Angeles at St. Louis

TONIGHT'S GAMES
Florida at Buffalo
Ottawa at Carolina
Minnesota at N.Y. Islanders
Calgary at Pittsburgh
San Jose at Chicago

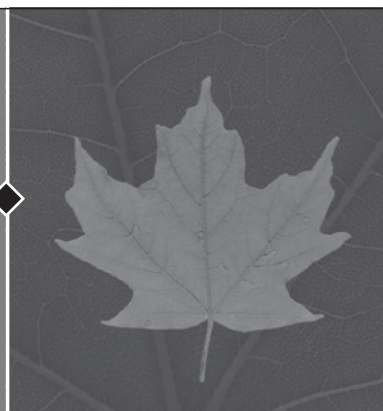
Anaheim at Colorado

NBA
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
L.A. Lakers 107 Oklahoma City 89
Detroit at Chicago
Golden State at San Antonio
Houston at Utah



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Half of McGill medical school grads leave Quebec

According to new data from the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada, 52 per cent of recent medical graduates from McGill University were working outside of Quebec, with 22 per cent settling in Ontario. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Workology



Free tuition?

In order to recruit the best and brightest students, Trent University is offering free tuition to first-year students with a high school grade average of 90 per cent and higher.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

A road to law enforcement out east

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada



If you have a strong heart for justice and want to help lay down the law, a career shift into law enforcement might just be for you.

The Law Enforcement Administration program offered by Newfoundland career college Academy Canada trains students for

careers as military police, private investigators, security guards and officers, jailors and other jobs in law enforcement.

According to Service Canada, employment in law enforcement and security related fields is expected to grow much faster than the national average for other occupations due to concerns about crime and vandalism as well as inevitable

business investment as the economy moves on.

It just goes to show that no matter what the economic conditions are like, people are always needed to help protect property and the public itself from people who would try to take criminal advantage of others.

The program at Academy Canada also leads to potential careers with the Royal Canadian Mounted

Police (RCMP), the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and private sector employment with agencies like the Brinks Armoured Car Service, as long as students fulfill any application, entrance and training requirements for such employers.

If you are thinking of a career in the field, however, forget clichéd images of gruff, tough-guy mannerisms and Hollywood-

"It just goes to show that no matter what the economic conditions are like, people are always needed to help protect property and the public itself from people who would try to take criminal advantage of others."

style action sequences. Real law enforcement work requires strong morals, a strong character and a re-

al desire to do good in the world.

For more information, visit academycanada.com

When to say, show me the money

EMPLOYMENT Job interviewees reluctant to discuss compensation with hiring managers during tough times are getting a green light from employers, a new survey shows.

More than half of senior executives (56 per cent) surveyed said they are comfortable with applicants broaching the subject in the first or second interview. In fact, approximately two-thirds (66 per cent) of executives indicated they most commonly discuss the subject by the second interview, with 19 per cent saying it usually comes up during the first interview.

The Accountemps conducted by an independent research firm and is based on interviews with senior executives from the 1,000 companies.

"While employers and job applicants don't have to agree on a final figure right away, general salary

requirements should be discussed early in the hiring process to avoid surprises later.



er on," said Max Messmer, chairman of Accountemps.

"When inquiring about salary for the first time, job seekers should be prepared to hear a broad range — employers want to get a sense of their qualifications and fit for the position before extending a formal offer."

To ensure job seekers negotiate the best compensation package possible, Accountemps advises candidates to

watch out for the following five pitfalls:

- **Going in unprepared.** Base your request on strong supporting evidence, which you can obtain by reviewing professional journals and industry publications, searching online salary sources and consulting with members of your professional network.

- **Over- or underestimating your leverage.** Consider the current job market, the unique expertise you offer and your experience level when establishing a desired salary range.

- **Being inflexible.** While there may be some aspects of an offer you'll be unwilling to negotiate, be prepared to compromise on items that are less critical.

- **Fixating on base salary.** Look at the total compensation package, including nonmonetary, but highly desirable components.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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EVERYTHING



Be forewarned of contracts

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

Metronews.ca/worklaw



It's possibly the worst fraud in workplace law — corporations, with expensive lawyers and deeper pockets, insisting that employees sign one-sided contracts that reduce their legal rights. And employees, without bargaining power or an understanding of the law, not realizing their interests have been undermined.

The landscape wasn't always tilted. Employees used to work mostly without contracts, based on a handshake or a simple offer letter that only specified the basics: Position, compensation and duration. But, as a function of learning from past mis-

takes, employers woke up and started sharpening their pencils: Why not prevent expensive lawsuits, exorbitant severance packages and competition from former employees, all with a single contract? The result is the modern employment contract, replete with employer-friendly terms. Employees now unknowingly agree to be dismissed with minimum notice, demoted, banished to far away jurisdictions, see their salaries slashed, prevented from competing with their employers following their departure, and to have promises broken at their employers' pleasure — all with legal impunity.

Given these contracts, beware of the following perilous terms:

Probationary periods:

Employers don't just use probationary periods to assess their new recruit's fit; setting a probationary period allows

them to dismiss for reasons that would otherwise be insufficient. The employer needs only to show that, in its opinion, the employee was unsuitable for the position. If these considerations are fairly assessed, the employer can end the relationship suddenly by providing only minimum notice or pay, or often less.

Termination clauses:

Without any language surrounding termination in the contract, employees are entitled to reasonable notice of their dismissal, based on how long it would take to find another job. However, if some other amount is stated in the contract, it will usually provide for less than what's fair.

Contractual changes:

Can the contract be modified or changed? Once the job begins, significant changes that negatively affect an employee are prohibited, without a



Employees used to work mostly without contracts, based on a handshake. Not so anymore.

sufficient warning or that employee's consent. Courts will, however, look to the contract, and if a clause clearly provided for that change, the employee had basically already agreed to it and is left without a remedy.

Post-employment restrictions:

An employee's only implied duty upon leaving is to keep information or trade secrets confidential and perhaps to compete fairly, unless other specific post-employment duties or restrictions are written into the contract.

If the contract is properly drafted, employers can prevent employees from working for a competitor, or soliciting clients or former colleagues upon their departure.

Post-termination income:

Contracts can deprive employees of the right to any compensation other than severance following their termination. Without such language, courts can imply that an employee is entitled to bonuses, commissions, stock options and profit sharing, as if the employee had

still been employed.

What should employees do? First, review any new contract with a lawyer and don't be reluctant to renegotiate terms. Second, challenge the enforceability of these contracts where the facts present that argument.

I have won in court by raising the inference that a contract was signed without proper consent — such findings are not exceptions.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focusing on the law of dismissal; dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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Rebuilding Iraq

Iraq is banking on tourism as a sector that will help it rebuild after years of bloodshed and rife kidnapping drove Westerners away. The country already attracts thousands of religious tourists. **REUTERS**

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Travel

The world's economic slowdown has reduced your odds of losing a bag the next time you fly, an industry group says.



REUTERS

Here's why
New fees to encourage passengers to travel with less and lighter baggage have also reduced the number of bags being loaded onto the wrong flights and conveyor belts.

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

An island rises out of the ashes

DAVID WHITLEY
for Metro Canada



Gingerbread Hill would have to be one of the strangest guesthouses on the planet.

It's tucked down the hill off a little side road branching out from Montserrat's main thoroughfare; goats amble across the driveway with impunity and the early morning wake-up call comes courtesy of the cockerels. A gate leads to a rough pathway leading up to a cemetery, and from that gate there is a spectacular view of the hill-sides, gullies and the Caribbean Sea.

It doesn't seem so much a guesthouse as a family home in the countryside, and that alone is enough to make for an experience far removed from the stereotypical Caribbean vacation. But this guesthouse also happens to be the best place to immerse yourself in the spectacular, terrifying story of the 1995 volcanic eruption that doused much of the island.

Gingerbread Hill is run



Soufriere Hills volcano, seen from the Montserrat Volcano Observatory, erupted in 1995. Far right, the view from the grounds of the Gingerbread Hill guesthouse.

by the Lea family — or the FamiLea, as they like to call themselves. They're American refugees, having decided to leave home when their favourite hippie haunts such as Boulder and Key West started yupifying.

As they tell it, they wanted to live someplace their children could "grow up a little slower, have a treehouse and a rope swing" and they could "pick fruit off the trees."

David and Clover originally came out to the island as missionaries, but cut the church ties early. David worked as the prison chaplain, ran a youth centre and embarked on a television career selling feel-good programs across the Caribbean.

Meanwhile, they gradually did up their house in what was — at the time — the middle of nowhere.

And then the Soufriere Hills volcano erupted. The southern part of the island was evacuated, scientists and media crews arrived in droves, and the Leas were asked if they could help out by putting someone up.

They did, and that was the beginning of their guesthouse. There are now four accommodation options, ranging from a surprisingly well equipped backpacker room to a fantastic suite with full kitchen and rooftop sun-deck.

What's more, the family members are more than happy to talk about the island's experiences, and

will even organize tours to spots within the exclusion zone if you wish to go behind enemy lines and see spectacular valleys of pure ash and mud.

Montserrat is slowly getting back on its feet, although the volcano is still highly active. For the visitor, there's the chance to see things that cannot be seen anywhere else on earth.

The views of the buried capital, Plymouth, from either the hilltops or on a boat from the sea are genuinely extraordinary — it is almost entirely buried, aside from a few rooftops sticking out above the debris.

The island's real asset, however, is its village-like atmosphere. Everyone knows everyone, and new-



comers are welcomed in instantly. Drop by at a local bar for a beer, and you'll be caught up in conversation or a game of dominoes in no time.

It's an attitude that Gin-

gerbread Hill typifies. It's nothing like the standard Caribbean beach resort, and it's all the better for it. Montserrat is something completely, brilliantly different.

Getting there

- To get to Montserrat, you need to get a flight with WinAir, fly-winair.com, from nearby Sint Maarten or Antigua.
- Rooms at Gingerbread Hill, volcano-island.com, start at \$45 US a night for the backpacker special. The Heavenly Suite costs \$125 a night.



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The number of tourists visiting Spain fell by 15.9 per cent in February compared to the same month a year earlier, the steepest fall since the economic crisis began to hit the country's second-largest industry. **REUTERS**

Jungle survival 101

TheTravelJunkie

Julia Dimon

metronews.ca/traveljunkie

Vancouver-born lodge owner Ian Anderson knows how to keep his visitors busy. Caves Branch Jungle Lodge, located in the Western part of Belize, offers multi-day, eco-friendly treks for the adventurous traveller, from caving expeditions tubing underground rivers, to rappelling

canopies, to mountain biking along Mayan ruins.

While there are plenty of things to do across this 58,000 acre private estate, it was the jungle survival course that piqued my interest. This day-long expedition was my chance to learn the basics of surviving in a harsh jungle environment. I'd learn how to make shelter, find edible plants, and set handmade traps to catch birds and small animals (just the kind of skills this urban dweller might need one day).

From the comfort of the lodge, I set out into the wilderness with a team of well-trained local guides. It's a lot easier to survive

when you have members of the Belize Disaster and Rescue Response Team showing you the ropes.

With heavy rains the night before, the path was slick with slippery roots and chocolate-pudding-like mud. Stepping over a swarm of fiery marching ants scurrying single file, I realized that the jungle isn't the most hospitable of environments. There are vines with spikes, trees with thorns and branches with natural barbed wire. There are jaguars, pumas and Fer-de-Lance snakes, venomous vipers that camouflage along the walking trails and attack if threatened. "One bite from this poisonous serpent can be fatal to humans, so it's best to keep your eyes open and stay alert," warned my

guide Ching.

When we arrived at a clearing, the team threw down their gear and launched into their lesson plan for Survival 101.

"Constructing a waterproof shield against the elements of nature is one of the first steps to survival," said Ching. Together, we built an A-frame structure out of sticks, bark and the umbrella-like leaves of a Bay Palm.

I learned that the sap from the gum tree can be used to heal wounds, water from the Cohun nut helps with re-dehydration and leaves from the "All Spice Tree" are good for stomach cramps.

Food was the next item on the itinerary. The guys showed me how to build rat traps from branches and improvised twine. With my trap set, I waited patiently. Sadly, catching my very own rodent dinner wasn't easy, so I was forced to look for other unappetizing food sources.

With few fine-dining options in the jungle, desper-



Ching, one of the Caves Branch guides, takes tourists into the jungle for a lesson in survival.

ate times called for desperate measures.

Termites are a good source of protein and much easier to catch than small animals, so I followed my main guide's lead and cut into a beehive-like nest with a pocket knife. A handful of confused orange termites dropped out into my palm. Jungle survival means doing whatever is necessary, so I stuck out my tongue and drowned the insects in a sea of saliva. Surprisingly, termites taste just like

carrots. Not only are they good for you, the nests themselves are useful in survival situations. When you burn a termites' nest, the smoke acts as natural insect repellent.

Spending a day with the Caves Branch team hacking through the jungle and testing my endurance, I realized that the jungle has everything you need to survive. You just have to learn where to look.

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing Sundays at 5:30 p.m. on OLN; julia@dimon.com.

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• For more information on Caves Branch survival courses and other adventures through the jungles of Belize, visit cavesbranch.com

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An entire day should be dedicated to exploring the town's street markets.

Aix oozes glamour in southern France

ROMINA McGUINNESS
Metro World News



The name Provence might trigger visions of lavender fields, gentle games of pétanque and café terraces where men drink aniseed liquor and play cards. But the town of Aix, nestled in a valley some 30 kilometres from the city of Marseilles, not only offers up picturesque landscapes; it also oozes glamour.

Bursting with culture, history, wonderful markets, fabulous boutiques and glamorous people — women religiously wear six-inch heels, even when grocery shopping — Aix ticks every box when it comes to reasons for visiting the South of France. No wonder the town attracted cultural stars including author Emile Zola and painter Paul Cézanne, and more recently, iconic French big-screen stars Alain Delon and Brigitte Bardot.

No visit to Aix is complete without an up-and-down tour of the Cours Mirabeau, a long sidewalk studded with brasseries, markets, shops and cafés — which also serves as a compass while exploring on foot.

Stop at No. 12, home to the town's oldest patisserie, Béchard, to indulge in some sweet therapy. Local diamond-shaped marzipans known as Calissons d'Aix are a speciality, but the freshly-baked iced-sugar brioche or glazed fruits will also please your palate.

At No. 49 is laid-back brasserie Le Grillon. Settle



The Carbone Fontaine, Place d'Albertas, Aix-en-Provence.

down on the heated terrace of this friendly café situated halfway down the hustle and bustle of the Cours and you'll get a snapshot of true Aix life. From young university students sipping bitter black coffee to the true bourgeois Aixois grazing on their three-course lunches, this is the place to see and be seen.

Stroll down to the end of the Cours to Place de la Rotonde, where the fountain-turned-roundabout marks the original entrance into the town. The fountain is made up of three mesmerizing mermaids, each one representing a different aspect of the town — Justice, Commerce and Agriculture, and Fine Arts.

An entire day should be dedicated to exploring the town's street markets. Stock up on local products including honey, lavender and fresh fruit on Place de La Madeleine where the local produce market stalls open daily from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Then follow the bursts of colours and smells over to the Palais de Justice, where the flower

Getting there

- Marseille-Provence airport is a 20-kilometre drive from the centre of Aix. The TGV Méditerranée rail line takes you from Paris to Aix-en-Provence in three hours.
- For more, visit aixenprovence-tourism.com

market merges with the vintage clothes and jewelry stalls situated across the street. Sunflowers in one hand and basket in the other, browse through the heaps of jewels and handwoven silk pashminas.

Last but not least, unwind after your exhausting trek of all the markets, bars and restaurants by treating yourself to a visit to Aix's new Spa, Thermes Sextius, built above a Roman thermae dating back to 122 BC. Spring water is sourced from the Sainte Victoire Mountain and is naturally 36 C and enriched in calcium and magnesium. Choose between a Zen or hydrotherapy massage, depending on your mood.

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Metro Drive

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Toyota tops

Toyota took five segment awards, more than any other nameplate in 2009, for the Highlander, Prius, Sequoia, Solara and Tundra, in the J.D. Power and Associates 2009 Vehicle Dependability Study, Canadian Driver reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The green side of Magna

Alliance with Ford, concept car part of eco-friendly direction

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada



Canada's Magna unveiled the Mila EV concept at the recent Geneva auto show.

Perhaps the most amazing thing about modern vehicle assembly is that there's really very little of the vehicle itself manufactured by the manufacturer. For example, when the Ford Model T was introduced in 1908, everything on the car was produced at one of Ford's factories. Even the steel for the body and engine was smelted on site.

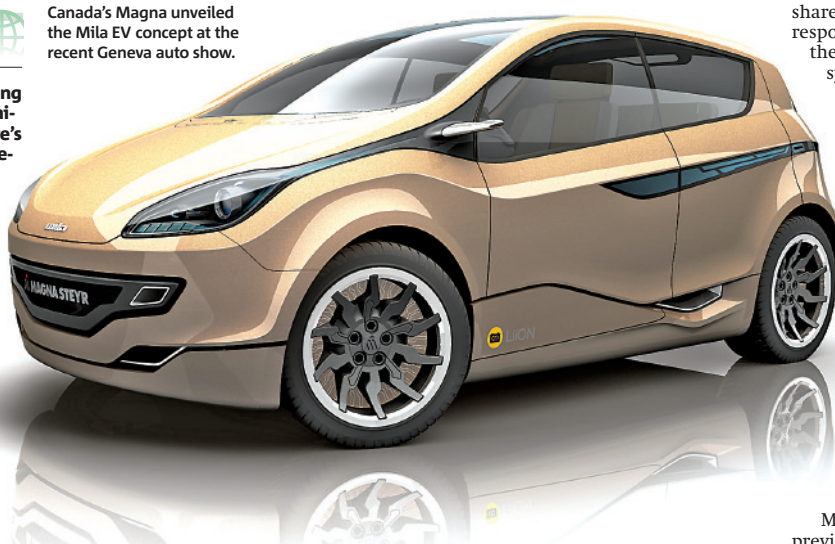
Today, it's the suppliers on whom the auto industry is built upon; everything from spark-plugs to seats comes straight from a supplier. It makes sense for automakers to purchase these parts from elsewhere, especially when there are huge quality improvements and cost savings involved; if a power-window switch can be made for less money and last longer, that's a win-win in anyone's books.

But what happens when a supplier decides it wants to build a car? That's been the case for Aurora, Ont.-

based Magna International, one of the world's largest automotive suppliers.

Magna is edging closer to the role of not only of automaker, but an environmentally conscious one at that. This Canadian corporation is aiming to become the world's leader in electric cars.

While there's plenty of green growing from Canadian soil with companies like ZENN and Electrovaya going for the low-speed



EarthHour

electric market, Magna's aiming for higher ground, and its size gives it advantages that the others can only dream of.

Announced at January's Detroit auto show, the first signal was a partnership with Ford, which both companies hope will culminate in a brand-new bat-

tery-electric vehicle (BEV) by 2011. Ted Robertson, chief technical officer and executive vice-president of new product creation for Magna, explained that the deal took over two years to put together, and that Magna will be responsible for supplying the "BEV electric traction motor, transmission, motor controller, energy storage system [batteries], battery charger and related systems. Magna will also

share in the engineering responsibility to integrate the electric propulsion system and other new systems into the vehicle platform architecture."

The next step came when Magna showed off its Mila EV concept car at the Geneva auto show recently. Robertson is quick to point out that they're still two separate programs, and that the Mila could potentially be "sold" to another automaker.

"Without getting into specifics, we can say that the Mila EV does provide a preview of some technologies that could ultimately be used in the Ford BEV."

Both projects make use of multiple Magna operating groups, and we share the synergies and lessons learned that go along with the collaborative efforts."

Robertson also explains that Magna's "green" strategy includes "developing components and systems for hybrid electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles and battery electric vehicles."

Mitsu's i-MiEV flies high

AWARD Mitsubishi Motors' zero-emission urban transport solution, the pure-electric i-MiEV, has been named as one of the top three contenders in the prestigious World Green Car competition.

Joining the Mitsubishi i-MiEV as finalists are the Honda FCX Clarity and Toyota iQ.

The innovative i-MiEV was selected from a list of five first-round finalists-paired from an original list of more than 20 cars by an international panel of 59 automotive journalists. The winner will be announced at the New York International Auto Show on April 9.

Scheduled to go on sale in the Japanese market this summer and currently undergoing U.S. testing, Mitsubishi is also looking to demonstrate i-MiEV and its capabilities in the Canadian market.

FROM CARGUIDE

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

Read the column at metronews.ca/autopilot

Chevy Traverse move in right direction

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada



GM is supposed to be going away from the minivan, but is it really?

New to the Chevrolet lineup is the 2009 Traverse CUV. While Traverse shares much with the Buick Enclave and Saturn Outlook, Chevrolet's version looks more like a 4X4 SUV when it is, in fact, a minivan.

And that's the clever part of the Traverse. It has all the seven- or eight-seat passenger utility of a minivan, while having that rugged SUV look that remains in vogue these days.

There are four models (LS, 1LT, 2LT, LTZ) separated primarily by trim. All

four share one engine, GM's ubiquitous 3.6-litre V6 with variable valve timing. In the 1Z/1LT/2LT it produces 281 hp and 266 lb/ft. The topline LTZ gets a slight boost in power to 288 hp.

The Traverse has a six-speed automatic transmission and comes standard in front-wheel-drive (FWD) or optional all-wheel-drive (AWD).

Fuel consumption on the 1LT FWD as tested is 12.7L/100 km (22 mpg) city and 8.4L/100 km (34 mpg) highway. The Traverse will tow up to 2,041 kg (4,500 lb).

With four-wheel independent suspension and four-wheel disc brakes, the Traverse 1LT comes standard with anti-lock brakes

and StabiliTrac, GM's take on stability control.

A battery of airbags is standard, as is front and rear air conditioning, cruise control, power locks and windows with lockout protection, tilt/telescope steering wheel, and eight passenger seating with second row "Smart Slide" flat folding 60/40 seats and third row 60/40 folding bench seat.

What people in the back row will love are the three vents at floor level that send hot or cold air to the feet. For those who have ever travelled to hockey practice in the back row of a minivan, this is a god-send.

Eight-passenger seating is standard on the LS and 1LT and optional on the

2LT. On the 2LT and LTZ (optional on 1LT) second row captain's chairs are fitted for seven-passenger seating.

The base LS pricing starts at \$36,260 with the 1LT at \$37,255. Starting price for the 2LT is \$41,860 and the LTZ is \$50,250.

Depending on model, there are a number of options like three entertainment systems in addition to the standard AM/FM/MP3/CD with six speakers. At the top of the option chain are heated/cooled perforated front leather seats and a dual sunroof.

What is noticeable is how the engine and six-speed automatic respond. GM could have got away by using its tried-and-true four-



2009 Chevrolet Traverse.

speed but they didn't.

Not only does the Traverse get off the line more smartly, you notice at normal highway speeds there is no hunting up or down for the right gear and this is particularly true in cruise control mode.

And while this not a true

truck, the higher seating position goes give a great view of the road ahead.

With the time and effort it is putting into Chevrolet, you have to say GM is starting to Traverse its troubles and is emerging with a whole string of world class vehicles to come.



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Ask your Ford of Canada dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3671. †Based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales report, December 2008. Based on Ford-branded vehicle sales from the manufacturers' month-end release December 2008. 51.3% of all new compact pick-up trucks sold in Canada in 2008 were Ford Rangers, based on R.L. Polk Canada, Inc. vehicle registrations, January 2008 through December 2008. †Safety ratings based on Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) 2009 Top Safety Pick and on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) historical five-star crash test ratings. Government star ratings are part of the NHTSA's New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). ††F-Series Super Duty Loyalty Program Bonus (the "F-Series Loyalty Bonus") and the F-Series Super Duty Conquest Vehicle Program Bonus (the "F-Series Conquest Bonus") are collectively referred to as the "Ford Tough Bonus". 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Dwayne Johnson insists there is "no one else" who can take on the part he wants in *The Adventures of Jonny Quest*, The actor is desperate to land the role of special agent Roger (Race) Bannon in the live-action adaptation. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Johnson on Quest for role

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

New artists shine

Junos put spotlight on up-and-coming musicians

ROB MCMAHON
for Metro Canada

Canada's Music Awards

JUNO Awards

Despite their recent introduction to the Juno stage, many of this year's new group of the year nominees have been hard at work for years in local bars, festivals and production studios.

Guitarist-vocalist Warren Spicer from Montreal-based, sprawling retro rockers Plants and Animals said his band has played together for seven years — despite only just releasing their full-length debut. During their incubation period, they carefully crafted *Parc Avenue*, an intricate, proggy roots-rocker that garnered nominations for a Polaris Music Prize and two Junos (new group of the year and best alternative album).

"(With *Parc Avenue*) we had no deadlines of any kind at all, and that allowed us to work at our own pace. I think that's the strength of it," he said. "(I think) it was good to let things take their time ... (when crafting the album, since) you notice things you weren't able to detect right away."

Beast's Jean-Phi Goncalves felt the same way. He and vocalist Betty Bonifassi have worked in the industry for two decades: Goncalves as a producer for artists like Lauryn Hill and Bonifassi as a vocalist on projects like the animated film *Triplets of Belleville*. But unlike Plants and Animals, they developed their craft independent of each other, and played their first show together just a year ago at the Montreal International Music Initiative Awards.

"We say this album took us 20 years to make ... since everything we've ever learned in music and in life we put together in making this album," said Goncalves. "We found it even more flattering and unexpected to see our



Beast, above, Plants and Animals, right, and The Stills, below, are among the nominees for the Juno Award for new group of the year. The Junos air on CTV this Sunday at 5 p.m.



Album of the year nominees

The following are the nominees for the album of the year Juno:

- **Hedley, *Famous Last Words*:** Jacob Hoggard's pop-punk band exudes more polish than spit on its sophomore album.
- **Nickelback, *Dark Horse*:** Haters be damned — these anthem-loving post-grunge superstars lead this year's nominees with five Juno nominations.
- **Simple Plan, *Simple Plan*:** Multimillion-selling, radio-friendly Montrealers offer a northern brand of Fall Out Boy's boy-band pop-punk.
- **Sylvain Cossette, *70's Volume 2*:** Retro riffs, power ballads and piano keys sprinkle the arrangements on this Quebec City singer's second album of cover songs from the 1970s.
- **The Lost Fingers, *Lost in the 80's*:** This Quebec group interprets hit '80s songs in "gypsy-jazz" style

nomination since we only released the record at the end of November — so we only had one-and-a-half months to prove it (was good)."

The big-beat inflected trip-hop duo's hard work will pay off Sunday, when the pair join fellow new group of the year nomi-

nees The Stills, Cancer Bats and Crystal Castles in Vancouver — coincidentally the day after Plants and Animals wraps up its tour.

"It's a nice way to end a tour," said Spicer. "The Junos was definitely something we didn't expect — to be up there with Canadian rock royalty ... I think

it's great that the Junos recognize the independent indie labels, since that's where a lot of the talent is now."

This year's new artist of the year nominees include Jessie Farrell, Crystal Shawanda, Kreesha Turner, Lights and Nikki Yanofsky.

muchmusic.com = video



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KEEPING YOU UPDATED

Madsen enticed by spooky script

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

You might not think it to look at the Oscar-nominated actress, but Virginia Madsen is actually a big fan of scary movies. And there's a reason why.

"I'm attracted to ghost hunters and Bigfoot and UFO footage; all that stuff just absolutely fascinates me," admitted Madsen during a recent interview in Vancouver. "I'm just naturally attracted to it. With cellphones and iPhones and all of our new gadgets, I think pretty soon, you're not going to be able to deny that it exists."

Well, whether or not you believe in aliens or the Sasquatch or haunted houses, there's no denying the Sideways star's unequivocal dedication to trying to track down a good ghost story. Madsen insists her latest thriller, *The Haunting in Connecticut* (which opens in theatres this Friday), was the first truly spooky script she had read in 10 years.

"By page three or four, I was invested in the mother and son," said Madsen, who is a mother to a teenaged son herself. "A lot of times, they don't give (characters) a lot of time in a horror film (to develop) so I just loved the script."

The script in question examines a series of horrific events that encounter a family struggling not only with their ailing child, but with an old Victorian home that unleashes a paranormal terror upon its new resi-



Virginia Madsen stars as Sara in *The Haunting in Connecticut*.

"A lot of times, they don't give (characters) a lot of time in a horror film (to develop) so I just loved the script."

Virginia Madsen

dents. Based on a real story that producer Andrew Trapani first discovered in 2003, *The Haunting in Connecticut* is only heightened by its powerful authenticity.

"That's what attracted

me to the project," said co-star Amanda Crew (*Sex Drive*). "It's one of those horror stories that I always like because, not only is it realistic, but you know that it's actually happened."

"The story becomes more frightening when you're invested in the people," added Madsen. "When you're dealing with things that might be under your bed or might be in the mirror or maybe could be in your house, of course it plays on our deepest childhood fears so it's really going to get you on a deeper level."

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Pumpkins stay together

Smashing Pumpkins will continue without Jimmy Chamberlin. Frontman Billy Corgan insists the group intends to go forward with its plans to tour and record another album, despite the drummer's departure. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

The runway shuffle

Two Project contestants return, two others get eliminated

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada

Last night's Project Runway Canada episode was a double-shocker as two previously eliminated designers came back and two more got sent home.

The contestants were dragged out to a camping ground where designers Jason Meyers and Genevieve Graham, who had already been cut in previous episodes, crawled out of tents to reveal that they had been reinstated on the show, with a catch: they had to win the next challenge or get sent home again.

Designers were split into teams of two and asked to use camping gear like tents, sleeping bags and backpacks to create one avant-garde design and one ready-to-wear dress.

Calgary designer Adejoke Taiwo and Vancouver designer Kim Cathers teamed up but got cut despite judges calling Tai-



Designer Adejoke Taiwo

wo's sleek and sexy dress her best work on the show.

The soft-spoken Taiwo, 25, says the competition was stressful but despite the hardship she's glad she did it, though getting sent home on what the judges themselves said

"If (the judges) don't want to see me flourish, that's their loss."

Adejoke Taiwo, designer

was her best design yet was painful.

"I did the best job I could on every single challenge. If (the judges) don't want to see me flourish, that's their loss," Taiwo said.

She says she's happy that she didn't bomb out in any of the design challenges and kept to her unique style throughout the competition.

"Before I went, I just thought, 'I don't want to design anything too ugly!' I feel like my designs stood out from the others," she said.

Cathers, 29, seldom shied away from expressing her abrasive opinions about the other designers,

though she now wishes she had voiced her frustrations less openly, at least on-camera.

"Obviously I'm the bitch on the show. In retrospect, maybe I could have kept the sharp tongue under wraps more," Cathers said.

She doesn't feel the show portrayed her unfairly, although she does wish her softer side could have gotten more screen time.

"I did say all those things, I did act quite abrasively, but they didn't show all the laughing, all the jokes. I can be a bitch but I can also be hilarious," Cathers said.

From wonky seams to iffy fabric cuts, Cathers' weaker construction skills often didn't live up to her creative ideas.

"My weaknesses and strengths really divided themselves — construction is not my strongest skill but I'm a really good conceptual designer," Cathers said.

Twilight sequel finds actors

FILM Summit Entertainment has brought on a cast of American Indian actors to star in the werewolf-and-vampire-themed New Moon, the sequel to Twilight.

The studio has hired Chaske Spencer, Bronson Pelletier, Alex Meraz, Kiowa Gordon and Tyson Houseman to form the ensemble Wolf Pack, who in Stephenie Meyer's novel take the side of the humans in their fight against

the evil breed of vampires. All five will make their big-screen debuts in the film.

Taylor Lautner previously had been cast as Jacob Black, also a member of the Wolf Pack.

Summit noted that all of the actors are of American Indian descent, with Sioux, Purepecha and Hualapai among the tribes represented. Meyer made the announcement on her website.

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Stretch
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In brief

FILM Tom Selleck, Catherine O'Hara and Martin Mull have joined the cast of Five Killers, an action comedy that stars Ashton Kutcher and Katherine Heigl. The Lionsgate project is being directed by Robert Luketic.

VIDEO China is not afraid of the Internet, its Foreign Ministry said Tuesday, even as access to the popular video sharing site YouTube appeared to be blocked. **REUTERS**

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: metronews.ca/movies

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VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
251	308	1	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Stars on Ice (CC)		Being Erica (N) (CC) (DVS)		CBC News: The National (N)	(:05) The Hour	
255	358	1	JOY	El News	The Insider	Knight Rider (CC)		Janice Dickinson Modeling		Running in Heels (CC)	News (N)	
254	-	1	M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition	Metropia	
250	321	1	CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	American Idol (Same-day Tape) (CC)				CSI: NY (N) (CC)	News (N)	
-	-	1	OMNI	The Daily	Fraser (CC)	Stargate SG-1 "Family"		Third Watch "Run of the Mill"		Scrubs (CC)	Buddhism	New Day
252	336	1	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Survivor: Tocantins (N) (CC)		Lie to Me (CC)		(:02) Life on Mars (N) (CC)	News (N)	
256	389	1	VI	Instant Star	TMZ (N) (CC)	America's Next Top Model (N)		Lost "He's Our You" (N)		Law & Order "Anchors Away"	News (N)	
253	359	1	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		The Chopping Block (N)		Nip/Tuck "Ricky Wells" (CC)		Murdoch Mysteries	The List	
-	-	1	CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	America's Next Top Model (N)		90210 (CC)		Seinfeld	Fraser (CC)	
289	381	1	CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Survivor: Tocantins (N) (CC)		Criminal Minds (N) (CC)		CSI: NY (N) (CC)	News (N)	
287	379	1	NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	The Chopping Block (N)		Life "5 Quarts" (N) (CC)		Law & Order "Anchors Away"	News (N)	
602	568	1	W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Grocery	Grocery	Supersize vs. Superskinny		Stuck (N)	Maxed Out (N)	Maxed Out
288	380	1	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Scrubs (N)	Better Off Ted	Lost "He's Our You" (N)		(:02) Life on Mars (N) (CC)	KOMO 4 News	
-	-	1	KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	The Real Cancun * (2003) Benjamin "Fletcher" Fletcher		King		Still Standing	Stomach	
291	383	1	PBS	Steves Europe	West Coast	Great Performances "King Lear" (N) (CC)				Change Your	Family Guy	
290	382	1	FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol (Same-day Tape) (CC)				News (N) (CC)		
-	364	1	PBS	(5:00) Great Performances (N)		Keeping Up	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		The Powder & the Glory	
296	654	1	SBK	Fraser (CC)	Fraser (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	Cheers (CC)	Half & Half	The Insider	Entertainment	Perfect Pullup
298	653	1	TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	America's Next Top Model (N)		90210 (CC)		KTVA Prime News (CC)	Friends (CC)	
295	651	1	WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	My Wife-Kids	
297	652	1	WPX	PIX News at Ten	Tong. (N)	Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser (CC)	Fraser (CC)	Odd Couple
199	311	1	STR	News (N)		Late Show-Letterman		Late Show		Will & Grace	Seinfeld	
502	390	1	NW	I. Psychopath (N) (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		I. Psychopath (CC)	National	
500	500	1	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)	Cooper 360	
407	419	1	RSP	Best Damn Sports Show		Hockey	Skiing	The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)	Sportsnet	
400	400	1	TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		In This Corner		Boxing Nate Campbell vs. Ali Funeka, (CC)		SportsCentre	SportsCentre	
411	457	1	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman (CC)		Mantracker	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman
410	403	1	SCR	Score Tonight	NBA Basketball	Utah Jazz at Phoenix Suns. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)		Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score
417	406	1	SC	Drag Race	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Pinks Out	Pinks Out	Pinks	Drag Race	Drag Race
416	409	1	GLF	Fútbol Español		Gol TV News	Samba	Foot Brazil	Gol TV News	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
552	543	1	YTV	In Real Life (N) (CC)		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Karaoke Star Junior (CC)		Falcon Beach (CC)	Mystery Hnt.	
555	545	1	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Chicken	Father	Moral Ore
557	541	1	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
553	546	1	TRE	Big Comfy	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Big Comfy
268	354	1	KNO	Great Canadian Parks (CC)		Man Made Marvels (N) (CC)		It's All About the Music		Vivaldi: The Four Seasons	Montreal Jazz	
575	583	1	CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Three Chords	Sessions	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith
570	580	1	MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	PunchMunk		America's Best Dance Crew		Born to Be	Spotlight	
600	564	1	H&G	Hid Potential	Really Big Flip	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Property	Unsellable	Mansions	Property Shop	Hid Potential
515	520	1	A&E	Bounty Hunter	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter (CC)	Bounty Hunter	
628	584	1	SPKE	(6:00) UFC Fight Night		Ways to Die	Ways to Die	CSI: NY "YoungBlood" (CC)		Disorderly Conduct: Video	Ways to Die	
521	580	1	TLG	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Cashing In	About a Girl	G-Spot (CC)	Cock'd Gunns	Big Love "Oh, Pioneers"	House (CC)	
615	522	1	SHO	The Outer Limits (CC)		Law & Order "House Calls"		Without a Trace (CC)		Richard III *** (1996) Ian McKellen. (CC)		
620	523	1	BVO	Opera	Broadway	ET Canada	TV Debt-Part	Real Housewives OC		Trading Spouses	Paradise Hotel	
500	562	1	SLC	Kimora: Fab	Kardashians	Daylight Panel		MythBusters "Air Plane Hour"		Dirty Jobs (CC)	Mayday (CC)	
522	506	1	HIS	NCIS "Call of Silence" (CC)		Outlaw Bikers Hell's Angels.		Ice Road Truckers (CC)		NCIS "Call of Silence" (CC)	Sea Hunters	
627	528	1	SPC	Stormworld	Grand Star	Stargate SG-1 "Enemies"		Star Trek: Next Generation		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)	Star Trek: Ent.	
624	560	1	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Seinfeld	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Swordfish ** (2001, Suspense) (PA) John Travolta. (CC)			
619	525	1	TRF	Vanity	Ad Persuasion	Seinfeld		Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Married...With	Seinfeld
603	561	1	FN	Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Challenge (CC)		Iron Chef America	Ult. Recipe	
628	547	1	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)	Corner Gas		The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore	Martin	Daily Show
320	621	1	CEN	(6:30) Just Business (2008)		Confessions of a Porn Addict (2008) (CC)		Made of Honor ** (2008) Patrick Dempsey. (CC)			(:15) Breach	
581	566	1	MTV	The Real World "Brooklyn"		MTV Live	After	Fantasy Fact.	Nitro Circus	The Real World "Brooklyn"	MTV Live	
261	394	1	V	Driven-Vision	Supernatural	Poltgeist: The Legacy		The Princess Bride *** (1987) Cary Elwes. (CC)		Sabor Musical	Travel TV	Patrol World
-	-	1	MUL	Eight Heroes	Mom's-Upset	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino				

critics'corner

Life When a coroner is murdered, his co-workers become prime suspects in the crime, with Crews and Seever (Damian Lewis, Gabrielle Union) coming under intense pressure to solve the case. At stake: countless murder cases that could be compromised if the killer turns out to be another coroner. Meanwhile, Ted (Adam Arkin) tries to reconcile with his daughter. Donal Logue and Sarah Shahi also star in "5 Quarts." 6 PM on STR



America's Next Top Model Cycle three contestant and model Toccara Jones stops by to host a slumber party and offer valuable tips about having a successful career in the modeling business. The contestants compete in a posing challenge under the scrutiny of Benny Ninja and travel to Ellis Island for a challenge that involves striking poses inspired by images of immigrants from the early 20th century. 5 PM on WGN WPX



Lady Gaga wishes she was alive in the '60s, saying: "I might be arguing with Yoko Ono and trying to win John Lennon's heart and chasing The Beatles in a bus on LSD, hoping that one of them hands me a microphone one day." **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Celebrity Buzz

Jacko's Harry Potter fanaticism

PEOPLE Michael Jackson has invited stars of the Harry Potter films to the opening night of his *This Is It* shows, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The three main stars from the wizard franchise — Daniel Radcliffe, 19, Emma Watson, 18, and Rupert Grint, 20 — have reportedly been offered all-access passes for Jackson's farewell residency at London's O2 arena in July.

"Michael is a huge fan of the Harry Potter books and films," a source told Britain's *The Sun* newspa-

per. "He was utterly enchanted by the magic of J.K. Rowling's novels and owns all the movies and he has bought memorabilia for his collection."

Jackson is said to be such a Harry Potter fan, he owns a first edition copy of Rowling's debut novel *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, which is worth more than \$20,000 U.S.

Around 750,000 tickets for Jackson's

record-breaking 50 shows at the O2 arena sold out in a single morning earlier this month. Tickets are so sought after, superstar soccer player David Beckham has reportedly even resorted to phoning up and using his status to ask for passes.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rihanna rebounds with Wilmer?

RELATIONSHIP Looking to put some distance between her and Chris Brown, Rihanna reportedly got friendly with Wilmer Valderrama at his weekly karaoke night at Geisha House in Hollywood recently, according to the *Daily Mirror*.



"They were chatting and laughing for ages," a source tells the newspaper.

"They looked pretty cozy and relaxed in each other's company. Wilmer was all charm and even had a bottle of champagne for Rihanna."

Valderrama has previously dated Lindsay Lohan, Ashlee Simpson and Paris Hilton.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Limelight affects Lindsay

PEOPLE Make no mistake; all that time in the unsolicited spotlight hasn't left Lindsay Lohan unscathed, online.com reports.

The frequently hounded star has spoken out exclusively to *E!* News, relaying that the incessant public speculation over the status of her sobriety, the healthiness of her bank account and, perhaps most of

all, her relationship with Samantha Ronson has indeed taken a toll.

"They need to stop saying we're fighting," she said of the media's fixation on the ups and downs of her love life with Ronson. "People



telling lies about me to her and all this garbage. I'm really a good person and I have a good heart and just want to work and the only reason I go to clubs is to hear Samantha spin or be normal."

Lohan urges people not to believe everything they read.

"I don't drink, I don't do drugs and I don't lie," she said. "I love to act and write and be creative and I want to help people by playing characters that can send a positive message out to whomever may need it." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

I didn't cheat: Jesus

PEOPLE Madonna's boyfriend insists he didn't cheat on her — because his mother was watching him, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Jesus Luz has blasted reports he kissed lingerie model Luciana Costa, 31, at a party in his native Brazil earlier this month.

"I danced with her, but I danced with everyone at the

party," he said. "My mother was at my side at the party and never would I become intimate with a woman if my mother was nearby — even if I was interested in that person."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

No laughs over Britney fat jokes

PEOPLE Britney Spears' confidence is reportedly being shaken by criticism about her figure. According to *Heat* magazine, some have been calling her "Bulky Spears" and "jelly belly," and the jibes aren't sitting well with her.

"Britney has been upset by some of the negative feedback she's been getting," a source tells the magazine. "She's worked so hard on her figure and her fitness."

"She thought she was an unstoppable force, but now it's dawning on her that she's not as revered as she once was, which is causing her upset."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Gisele and Tom's wedding, part 2

MARRIAGE After quickly marrying on a Thursday in February, Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen are going to do it again — with a few more people on the guest list, people.com reports.

The newlyweds have invited friends, family, Brady's New England Patriots teammates and Bündchen's model pals to Costa Rica for a dinner on Friday, April 3, followed by a Saturday replay ceremony and reception, sources say.

It will be considerably bigger than the first ceremony, attended only by Brady's son and a few guests. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



GETTY IMAGES

Was Twitter final straw for Jen?

BREAKUP Here's another theory as to why Jennifer Aniston and John Mayer called it quits: She dumped him because he's addicted to Twitter.

Sources tell *Star* magazine Aniston was furious that the singer would claim he

didn't have time for her but spent time on the site. "She was like, 'He has time for all this Twittering, but he can't send me a text, an email, make a call?' He didn't deny it," a source said.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Stop the stalking: David

PEOPLE Fame has gotten ugly for American Idol David Cook, who pleaded for privacy while on tour, people.com reports.

"The efforts by some fans to find our hotel rooms, call our hotel rooms, attach things to our bus, etc., is something I have to condemn," he

says on his MySpace blog. "Should this behavior continue, the only thing we can do is take more preventative measures to maintain our privacy, which in turn makes us less accessible to you."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

LeAnn, hubby put on a show

PEOPLE LeAnn Rimes kissed husband Dean Sheremet, and he put his arm around her in front of the paparazzi in L.A. on Monday — days after *Us Weekly* reported she was having an affair with her co-star

Eddie Cibrian. While Rimes has acknowledged she and Sheremet are going through "a difficult time," she has not denied a relationship with Cibrian.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

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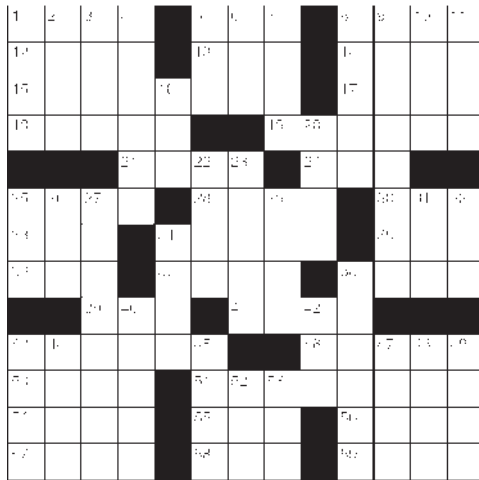
No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Contest open to Canadian residents of legal age, excluding residents of Quebec. Contest closes April 9, 2009 at 11:59 pm. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received. For full contest rules and details, visit www.metronews.ca





For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



Crossword across

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Tackles weeds | 24 Kitten's call | 39 Mauna — |
| 5 Miss Piggy's pronoun | 25 Judicial raiment | 41 Places |
| 8 Rough journey | 28 Creme-filled cookie | 43 Unexpected |
| 12 Piedmont wine region | 30 Shade source | 46 Bonfire residue |
| 13 Curved line | 32 Actress Mendes | 50 Indigent |
| 14 Trumpet | 34 Dress | 51 Attendance check |
| 15 St. Patrick's Day emblem | 35 Meadow | 54 Missile shelter |
| 17 Dermatology subject | 36 Quarterback Marino | 55 Rage |
| 18 McCain's running mate | 37 Uplifting melody | 56 Otherwise |
| 19 Northerner | 38 With "down," drop suddenly | 57 Building extensions |
| 21 Settle down | | 58 Kimono closer |
| | | 59 Cabbage salad |

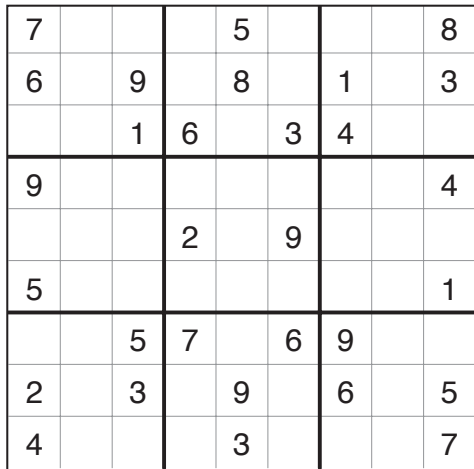
Crossword down

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Padlocked fastener | 11 Last word of "Oh! Susanna" | ture |
| 2 Job-safety org. | 16 Genetic abbr. | 38 Early March baby |
| 3 And others (Lat.) | 20 Wild and crazy | 40 Marks' replacements |
| 4 "Hard as nails," for one | 22 Sushi wrapper | 42 Western st. |
| 5 Chinese chair-man | 23 Whimsically witty | 43 Church area |
| 6 Killer whale | 25 Roulette bet | 44 Seethe |
| 7 Gross | 26 Eggs | 45 Small combo |
| 8 Scottish feudal lord | 27 Wad | 47 Corridor |
| 9 "Saturday Evening Post" artist | 29 Outside (Pref.) | 48 "Born Free" lioness |
| 10 Sea eagle | 31 Writer Buscaglia | 49 Passel |
| | 32 Treasure seeker's aid | 52 Scepter |
| | 34 Envelope feature | 53 Mainlander's memento |

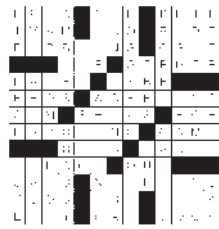
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



8	3	6	5	4	2	7	1	9
2	5	4	9	1	7	6	8	3
9	1	7	8	3	6	4	2	5
7	4	1	6	5	9	8	3	2
5	6	8	3	2	4	9	7	1
3	9	2	1	7	8	5	6	4
1	2	9	7	6	5	3	4	8
4	7	5	2	8	3	1	9	6
6	8	3	4	9	1	2	5	7

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:	17-21 min.....Smart
Under 13 min.....Genius	21-25 min.....Not bad
13-17 min.....Scholar	25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Classic Grilled Dover Sole

INGREDIENTS:
 4 small Dover sole (about 1/4 lb/125 g each), cleaned and skinned
 2 lbs (1 kg) new potatoes, scrubbed
 1 large sprig fresh mint
 1 tbsp (15 ml) unsalted butter
 finely grated zest and juice of 1 large lemon
 1 lb (500 g) baby leaf spinach
 Freshly gated nutmeg (optional)
 Salt and pepper to taste
 Fresh mint sprigs and lemon wedges to garnish

METHOD:

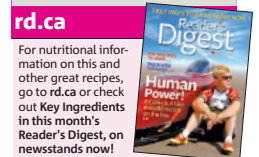
- Preheat broiler to high. Lay fish on top of foil-lined grill pan.
- In large pot, cover potatoes with boiling water and add sprig of mint. Cook until potatoes are just tender, about 15 minutes.
- Meanwhile, melt butter in small pot and mix in

lemon zest and juice. Season with salt and pepper. Brush the lemon butter over the fish and broil until the flesh close to the bone flakes easily when pierced with a knife, 5–6 minutes.

4. While the fish is cooking, steam the spinach until just wilted, 2 minutes. Season with salt, pepper and nutmeg to taste.

5. Drain potatoes and put into warmed serving dish. Add plenty of black pepper, toss gently and garnish with mint sprigs. Transfer sole to warmed plates and spoon over cooking juices from pan. Add lemon wedges and serve.

SERVES 4



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20
 You've made an error in judgment. An executive doesn't speak your language. An odd couple talks about changing the world.



TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21
 Keep track of an amusing competition. Money can be earned the easy way. Make a grab at a big and risky chance.



LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23
 Spiteful feelings make for an uncomfortable meeting. Your strategy is a controversial topic. Controlling your feelings leads to wonderful news.



SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22
 A man has a chip on his shoulder. A friend faces a long-awaited response. Some errors are made in good faith.



GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21
 Cheer up by discussing the dating game. Remarkable pleasure creates a wild diversion. A flaky parent stumbles onto a solution.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21
 A loved one's exhaustion will lift. A walk will do wonders for a caring person. Having second thoughts promises a fresh start.



CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22
 A conversation eases the pain of unrequited love. An uncommon man shifts gears while debating. You will accomplish great things.



CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20
 The arrival of a risk-taking friend causes confusion. Whiny people will avoid doing chores. Helping someone out will bring you a windfall.



LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23
 A prudish woman questions your preferences. A nearby object has a strange effect. A guilty person needs medical attention.



AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18
 Exhilarating prospects are notable for their thrills. An angry man is forced to have some fun. Some secrets are revealed due to a scandal.



VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22
 A project is suspended by a worried person. The wrong guy is asked to make a job change. More adventures are coming soon.



PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20
 A man talks of a viable scheme. You'll get frustrated while on the phone. Be yielding but keep your mind clear.

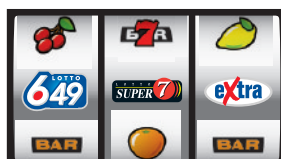


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\$950 DOWN PAYMENT
\$12,314 TOTAL LEASE OBLIGATION



CITY: 7.7L/100KM (37 MPG)
HWY: 5.8L/100KM (49 MPG)*

MORE 2009 VERSA HATCH

LARGEST PASSENGER VOLUME IN ITS CLASS*
HIGHEST HORSEPOWER IN ITS CLASS*
SIX STANDARD AIRBAGS

0% FOR 36 MONTHS FINANCING* **90** DAYS NO PAYMENT*

MSRP
\$15,323** FREIGHT AND PDE INCLUDED
1.8 SL MODEL SHOWN*

1ST FREE MONTHLY PAYMENT*

LEASE FOR **\$189⁺** PER MONTH FOR 60 MONTHS
INCLUDES FREIGHT AND PDE

LEASE RATE **2.9%** \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT
\$895 DOWN PAYMENT
\$12,216 TOTAL LEASE OBLIGATION



CITY: 7.9L/100KM (36 MPG)
HWY: 6.3L/100KM (45 MPG)*



AUTOPACIFIC IDEAL VEHICLE AWARD (ECONOMY CAR)*

MORE 2009 SENTRA

STANDARD ABS AND EBD
POWER LOCKS
SIX STANDARD AIRBAGS



0% FOR 36 MONTHS FINANCING* **90** DAYS NO PAYMENT*

MSRP
\$16,323** FREIGHT AND PDE INCLUDED
2.0 SL MODEL SHOWN**

LEASE FOR **\$189⁺** PER MONTH FOR 60 MONTHS
INCLUDES FREIGHT AND PDE

LEASE RATE **3.9%** \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT
\$1,050 DOWN PAYMENT
\$12,393 TOTAL LEASE OBLIGATION



CITY: 8.4L/100KM (34 MPG)
HWY: 6.4L/100KM (44 MPG)*

VISIT YOUR LOCAL NISSAN RETAILER TODAY OR nissan.ca FOR DETAILS

*Only on the 2009 Versa Sedan 1.6 (B4EG59 AA00), 2009 Versa Hatch 1.8 S (B5LG59 AA00), and 2009 Sentra 2.0 (C4LG59 AA00) models. **MSRP for a 2009 Versa Sedan 1.6 (B4EG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Versa Hatch 1.8 S (B5LG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Sentra 2.0 (C4LG59 AA00), manual transmission. *Lowest MSRP of any new 2009 Car sold in Canada. \$13,823 MSRP for a 2009 Versa Sedan 1.6 S (B4EG59 AA00). Includes freight and PDE charges (\$1,325). License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice. †Program applies only to purchase finance offers on all 2009 Nissan models (except for the 2009 Nissan GT-R, 350Z and 370Z models) purchased and delivered before March 31st, 2009. Offers available only through Nissan Canada Finance on approved credit. Offer does not apply to Nissan Canada Finance standard rate programs. Delayed payment option not available on cash purchase offers. 1st monthly payment occurs at 90 days into finance contract. Contracts will be extended accordingly. Interest charge (if any) will not accrue during the first 60 days of the contract. After the 60 days, interest (if any) starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal and interest (if any) monthly over the term of the contract. Offer available on terms up to 72 months. 110% purchase financing for up to 36 months available only on all 2009 Versa Hatch, Sentra, Altima Sedan, Rogue and Titan models. Finance Example for a 2009 Versa Hatch 1.8 S (B5LG59 AA00): \$15,323 Selling Price, including (\$1,325) freight and PDE financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals \$286.75 per month with \$5,000 down payment. Cost of borrowing is \$0 for a total obligation of \$15,323. Up to \$84 PPSA, license, insurance registration and taxes are extra. ‡Lease Examples: \$13,823/ \$15,323/ \$15,573 Selling Price for a new 2009 Versa Sedan 1.6 (B4EG59 AA00)/ 2009 Versa Hatchback 1.8 S (B5LG59 AA00)/ 2009 Sentra 2.0 (C4LG59 AA00) at 5.9%/ 2.9%/ 3.9% lease rate for a 60/60/60 month term. Monthly payment is \$189/ \$189/ \$189 including (1,325)/ (\$1,325)/ (\$1,325) freight and PDE with \$950/ \$895/ \$1,050 down payment, and \$0/ \$0/ \$0 security deposit. License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice. Retailer may lease for less. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year with excess charged at \$0.10/km. Total lease obligation is \$12,314/ \$12,216/ \$12,392.74. Lease and finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailer order/ trade may be necessary. Vehicles may require factory order. Offers valid between March 3rd to March 31st, 2009. †Offer applies only to 2009 Versa Hatchback models on 36 to 60 month lease terms. Offer valid between March 3rd to March 31st, 2009. ‡Based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Your actual fuel consumption may vary with driving conditions - use for comparison only. ††\$18,223 Selling Price for a 2009 Versa Hatch 1.8 SL (B5RG59 AA00/AA10), manual transmission/ \$23,923 Selling Price for a 2009 Sentra 2.0 SL (C4TG19 AA00), CVT transmission. Includes freight and PDE charges (\$1,325)/ (\$1,325). License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailer may sell for less. †WardsAuto.com's Lower Small segment, 2008. 2009 Versa 1.8 vs. 2008 competitors. ‡©2008 AutoPacific, Inc. Ideal Vehicle Award. †Government star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). U.S. model tested with standard side airbags.